DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 459 411 CG 031 468

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| AUTHOR | Susin, Janet; Kaplan, Lorraine; Slater, Louise |
| TITLE | Breaking the Silence: Teaching the Next Generation about Mental Illness. For Upper Elementary Grades. Third Edition. |
| PUB DATE | 2001-00-00 |
| NOTE | 12p.; For the middle and high school editions, see CG 031 469-470. Sponsored by NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill), NAMI New York State, and NAMI Queens/Nassau. |
| AVAILABLE FROM | National Association for the Mentally Ill Queens/Nassau, 1983 Marcus Avenue, C-103, Lake Success, NY 11042 ($12.50 + $3 s/h, another $1.50 s/h each additional packet; $35 for the complete set + $5 s/h, another $2.50 s/h for each additional set). Tel: 516-326-0797. |
| PUB TYPE | Guides - Classroom - Teacher (052) |
| EDRS PRICE | Document Not Available from EDRS. |
| DESCRIPTORS | Attitudes toward Disabilities; Clinical Diagnosis; Curriculum Guides; Elementary Education; Health Activities; Health Education; Lesson Plans; *Mental Disorders; Mental Health; *Mental Health Programs; Outcomes of Treatment; *School Counseling |
| IDENTIFIERS | Sensitivity Analysis |

ABSTRACT

This guide provides curriculum lessons for the upper elementary school student that put a human face on mental illness and confront myths passed on from one generation to the next. One in five children will be affected by mental illness at some point in their lives. The goal of these lessons is help students understand that severe mental illnesses are brain disorders that can be diagnosed and treated just like other physical illnesses. The objectives are for students to: (1) be sensitized to the pain caused by making fun of people who have mental illness; (2) relate mental illness to other physical illnesses; and (3) be informed about the nature of mental illness and its treatment. Stories are used to stress the point about what are healthy ways to respond to mental illness. Several suggestions for classroom activities are included. The packet also includes an instructional poster and a follow-up questionnaire. (JDM)

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